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EAST VINCENT TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

BY FREDERICK SHEEDER.

INTRODUCTION.

FREDERICK SHEEDER, the author of this history of Vincent Township, Chester Co., Pa., was born Feb. 20, 1777, in Nassau, Saarbrucken, Germany. He came to Pennsylvania with his father when sixteen years of age, and afterwards learned the trade of a tailor. During the war of 1812 he enlisted as a private and for a time was in camp at Marcus Hook. He became prosperous and built in the neighborhood where he lived over twenty-four houses. At the time of a family celebration in 1860, he had ten children, forty-seven grandchildren, and thirty-seven great-grandchildren. He died September 18, 1865, in the eighty-ninth year of his age. These details are taken from Futhey and Cope's History of Chester County.

When the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, in 1845, issued a circular address urging the people in the different sections of the State to collect and preserve historical information relating to their respective localities, one of a very few to respond was Mr. Sheeder. With energy and zeal, he went about among the people and learned what they were able to tell of past events. It is remarkable that a native of Germany should show an interest which those more nearly concerned failed to exhibit. He gathered many facts of importance and his work has aided many writers since, and it is due to him that the results of his efforts should be preserved in permanent form. The original MS. he at that time gave to this Society, in whose library it still remains.

It has been thought best that the history should be printed in the quaint phraseology and orthography in which it was written, believing that it loses nothing in strength or value because of the fact that the author was without education and expressing his thought in an unfamiliar tongue.

SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER.

To the Historical Society of Pennsylvania:

with due Respect.

I shall answer to Some of the questions of yours of Philadelphia January 1845 first a Sketch of part of the lines of Vincent Township in Chester County from the first proprietary What i give too much in detail you are at liberty to cut Shorter and if a miss in Spelling to rectify, as follows The grant of Wm. Penn Esqr. runs as follows, To all to whom these presents Shall com, greeting. Know ye that in consideration of the monies paid to the late proprietary William Penn Esqr. deceased at the making of the grant hereafter mentioned to Dr. Daniel Coxe there is granted by the Said Commonwealth unto Peter Hamond, John Ord, Wm. Hopkins, Richard Caper, Samuel Weaver, Anthony Merry and george Samuel Wigg a certain tract called East Vincent Scituate in Vincent Township in the County of Chester (reader you must recollect that this County and old Chester was one County) Beginning at a whiteoack on the bank of the River Schullkill thence along the line of the Township of Pikeland South fourty decrees west (I see no use of mentioning all the lines) and from the Township of Auckland to the River Schulkill North fourty decrees East and down the River Shulkill the Several corses to the place of begining 10,000 98½ acres which Said tract of land is a part of thirty Thousand acres which the Said late propriatary William Penn by his Seperate Deeds of feoffment all bearing date the 20th. April 1686 did grant to Sr. Mathew Vincent, Major Robert Thompson and the Said Daniel Coxe and the right of the Same Daniel Coxe, to the Said Ten thousand acres with the allowences or there abouts having by virtue of divers conveyances and assurances in the Law became vested in the west New Jersey Society a warrant dated the 3th. November 1774 issued from the land office at the instance of John Hunt the then Attorny in fact to Peter Hamond and others, a Commety of the Said Society for the Surveying lying off the part or Share of the

Said large tract belonging to the Said Society in pursuance of which warrant and of a certain order of the board of property dated the 28th. of November last the above tract is returned into the office of the Secretary of the land office in order for confirmation by Patent to the Said Peter Hamond John Ord William Hopkins Richard Capper Samuel Weaver Anthony Merry and george Samuel Wigg in whom by indentures of lease and release dated the 17th. and 18th. days of December 1790 the Said tract of ten thousand 98½ acres of land and premises is vested in fee Simple to be Sold leased or otherwise disposed of &c and for which Said tract of land a patent dated the 5th. day of December 1791 was granted to the & & and State reserves, In Witness whereof Thomas Miffling governor of the Said Commonwealth hath Set hand and caused the State Seal to be hereunto affixed the 20th. day of June A. D. 1792 and of the Commonwealth the 16 enroled 21th. 1792. The reader will please to recolect that before this time no actual Settler had a Title of any of these 31 000 acres of land, if one Sold to an other person he only could Sell his improvement and at and from that time none could have a deed Some of the Settlers took leases and Some had prior ones and when that time the heirs of Penn presented their claim that frightened a good many of the Settlers so that they Sold their improvements and whent further back for fear they could not afford to pay twice for their lands The Society however was very indulgent on the posessers that Some did not discharge all to the Society from that time untill 1812 and got their deeds it had been a custom with them that none got a deed till all the monies were paid This makes it somewhat difficult to git at all the names of the first Settlers however the names of those that i cannot name hereafter and you would be for having them If the Society capt a record or filed the leases as they obtained them from the Settlers i will direct you how to obtain them. Finius Bond was the last acting agent for the New west Jersy Society and the father of your general Cadwaleter

was his Secretary I think if the general will he can assist you of obtaining them F. Bond was a Son in Law of Esqr. More at Morehall place in Charlston township and general Cadwalleters grandmother was a daughter of Esqr. likwise The Morehall place contained 700 acres of land then my father in law Nicholaus Haldeman did farm the place for Esqr. 7 years on Share and then bought himself a place a mile above Kimberton now, in the revolutionery war on which place he lived till he died the 15th. of January 1819 and the writer of this F. Sheeder was born in Saerbroock germeney the 20th. February 1777 arrived at Philadelphia the 26th. November 1793 in the first yellow fever along with father mother brothers and sisters and came to this Township and lived here and been a constand inhabitant since the Spring 1800 and a constand observer of times passing on, there are but few persons living that were housekeepers then, Some places has changed owners till then and in fact there are two or parts of two tracts that the descendants of the first Settlers are in possession at this time of whome i Shall make mention hereafter in notation i shall then begin on the west side of French creek They were chiefly from Wales with the exception of a few Schotch Irish, the first Settler on the place this Side Kimberton place, was Michal Taney and the first german that Settled on the west Side of frenchcreek and Amans place Since 1794 the next place west of that, Thomas griffith he died and the widdow married William Braucallof of whom Paul Benner purchased and at present Abraham Benner thirth son of Paul Benner, is the proprietor of the greatest part of the tract Paul Benner devited his place to the 3 of his oldest sones his mention to Abraham, 50 acres to his son Jacob Benner who died in Phila. the time of the first fiver a mason and Bricklayer by trade and 57 acres to John Benner who bought his brother Jacob out then had 107 acres on this tract Wm. Browall erected house and Barn and afterwards Sold the same to Paul Benner John Benner Sold this place to one Jacob Frederick in the year 1793 he

came from Skipack; I Frederick builded a new end to the house and a new Barn with an overshoot as they termt then the stabling part of stone and the mows of log and when he had the neighbours to help to raise Said Barn he tould them that it was large enough to contain all that him Abraham Benner and my father in law could raise or produse Jacob Frederick sold 25 acres with the big Spring on to meet his first payment to Allen hammer a Son in law of P. Benner he is alive yet. The places at that time were Sold on payments without interests one quarter of the purchase money down and the rest in three equal payments and sometimes 4 & 5 payments in the year 1816 the 25 acres was devited into 3 parts of tracts the owner then Allen Hammer sold off all to 6 acres and Samuel Hirsh got to be the owner and erected a dam below the Spring and erected a Sawmill S. Hirsh died and Abraham Buckwalter a millright by occupation became the owner in the year 1830 and rebuilt said sawmill with a mashine Shop over head and a pair of Runners attached to the side of the same and erected other buildings and named it Royal Spring, this is ¾ of a mile above Kimberton and in the corse of 1½ mile from this Spring there are glevenstines mill Kimberton Mill and Clovermill and Paisess mill and Sawmill before it emties into frenchcreek The above Jacob Benners widdow died the later part of November 1845 at her residence in East Vincent eightyaught years of her age and I Frederick Sheeder in the year 1799 purchased of Jacob Frederick and took posession the Spring following erected a Stone dwelling with Spring house and cellar under here i lived one year before i took a plow in my hand to plough never had ploughed a furrow before i made my livin at my trade tailoring (with respect) which i followeth thirty two years day and knight, this place was verry poor no man could make a livin on nothing but carlic and briers groweth on it and rough on account of Stones I took to liming a little and cleared the Stones off I ploughed deep by which means i distroyed the carlic and briers which i could name here but

will suspence with, told me that i was Spoiling my ground by ploughing so deep i made them answer that i could Spoil nothing of it for it was Spoiled by ploughing too shallow and as to clearing the Stones off They told me that i would find myself obliged to haul them back again to make the ground bare here i lived 20 years but had Sold 43 acres of the place in 1804, to my father and brother henry, as i did not intend to make my liven by farming and knoweth nothing of it which the reader will perceive when i come to treat of where the first german Steel was made and the first round iron for bars and bolts for Ship use & & and in this time i improved my land and Sold off 20 acres more of it to John Bush a brother in Law of mine however in these 20 years there where not more than two years that i had not Carpenters and masons at work more or less in 1810 I erected an addition to the house three stories I privious had erected a wagon house at one end of the barn that contained as much as a mow of the Barn Jacob Frederick while he lived on it 12 years all the grain he could raise was for Six months bread and at Newyears time he had to buy hay and straw, 1812 in the winter the Snow a food deep on the roofs and the mows toned to the peak of the roofs and not all in, the rats made 9 holes in the roof to lick Snow now thinks i to put a new roof on and to build an new end to contain all i raise, will cost me as much as an new barn will So i tore all away this Summer and erected a double decker that is two floors over head of an other and when the masons had Scaffled to Starte the gable ends and took a drink at the South western corner (this was the first of that kind they had ever worked at before) they took a look over the wall down inside and they Shuddered as to the hight, I been on the scaffle at the corner opposed them and one of them called over to me ignominiously Sheeder do you intent to fill this Barn, my reply was yes I expected So providing i would keep my health The thirth year after I filled it to the peak of the roof i use to hear my Neighbours say when 2 or 3 been walking along the road when i was spreading

lime, ha they use to say what a fool Sheeder is to throw his money away They had in one sense good reason to say so for they knoweth well that i had none to Spare for when i purchased i had $100 to pay towards the first payment i had Borroweth it for same certain purpose and had offered to pay it back 2 years before then but the person would not receive it untill Shee would come to want money once i had no debts and had Some money to buy Stock and here i lived 3 years and had to borrow to pay the interests above i made mention of living here 20 years and erected all new builtings and that all of Stone and all my land i made new to yield to abundence and was as clear and clean as a garden and along the woods i got ditchis made and the ground bore better were before nothing grew. Some of my neighbours that use to make sport of me throwing my money away in lime use to Say in reaping time (that time all winder grain was reaped) ha they use to say I, can raise as good grain as those that limes and some years afterwards they changed their language by saying Sheeder i must lime too for i cannot rais any grain no more, and when i came to handle the plow i soon found fault with them the beams being too long. The mouldboards of wood and not high anough and land sides too low the thirth year i bespoke a new plow and ordered Short beam high mould board and landside but not yet to please me in 2 years after i got an other new one made, this wase made nearer to my direction as the first one yet not to my satisfaction the horsies had to labour too hard I got Strong Sheetiron roded to lay over the mould board and landslide after this was wore out i got an other one made Still Shorter beam and higher mouldboard and applied Sheediron as before and use to talk to the black smiths and wheel wrights about to make them of Iron from hinch the iron mouldboards and landsides altho i understand a wheelright in the Jersy claims to be the inventor of them there was no building wanting at the end of the above mentioned 20 years as a new hog house I in the Spring 1820 moved on my father in Law's place N. Halde-

man adjoining mine and the Amans place, of which i Shal treat more in rotation of Nicholas Haldeman's Deceased's place, John Lewises place adjoining A. Benners was first Settled by one John Meredith of whom John Lewis purchased his right and is in possession of the widdow Ester ot John Lewis Ser. deceased and heirs, on this place are rich bead of Iron ore and the pit in operation on this place stood once a large yellow peach tree that bore fruth 80 years and an Indian village William Fussels place now as John Lewis has sold part of his place Jonathan Thomas his son in Law and became Fussels place now, where the line of the 2 places crosses a coppy of woos at the uper end of the meddow of and on a rising a Copy of woods there where the line and Frederick Rhodwaldts cropse crosses where i counted 25 mounts and holes which was their burial place and some on Fussels side are ploughed over and leveled with Surface and Some Say that they have often heard the indian yell, Jesse Meredith living now above Pughtown says that his grandfather took up this place in 1712 his great great grandfather had bought the property were Jesse now lives 300 them for £45:00:00 his son John owned the above mentioned property of Lewises that he at times lived with his son and some times on this Covantry place but died with his Son a member of the valley Church and was buried there in . . . . John Meredith willed the place now Christian Fridays to his son Enoch and after him came into the hands of Lewis's now before going back to Vincent i Shall describ all Jesse Meredith related Samuel Savage and heirs first Settled on the place now John Young Samuel Nutt erected the first iron works along french creek above george Christman's dam in Covantry Now return to Vincent again to the south western corner of vincent old georg Derry's place is occupied by the heirs at the present time he been born in Pikeland on the place for a number of years Shumans place on this place the Ridge and Schulkill roads fork g. Deery his father was the first Settler on that place his father died and his mother marryd Shuman george

deery when 16 years old bought this, the corner place of Vincent adjoining Friday's place the man he purchased of whent by the name of the old walsh man John Thomas, was the name who was the father of the farmer Benjamin Thomas who erected the mill this side Kimberton, had but one leg, him been the first Settler I now preseed as proposed towards french creek again Jonas Lindeman had taken up a large tract here but cannot define the lines of the difrent owners at the present time old Robert Ralstons place was first Settled by umphry Bell here Judge John Ralston was born his father Served as a member in the Assembly came from Irland been a member of the valley Church died about the year 1805 and lays burried in that grave yard and the Judge his sone and wife 20 years hence of whom I Shall speak more largely when i came to treat if General Washington leving the yellow Springs for Reading i here Shall remark an anecdote the old gentlemen generally made use of, was if a man that had done Some work for him called to receive his pay made an excuse Saying that if it was not for Such purpose or cause that he wanted for, the old gentlemen replyd i ow it to you and will pay you its no difrence what you do with it, to me if you feed your geese with it he being at the time of his death one of my nearest Neighbours in an advanced age of 90 od years Said Robert Ralston purchased his place when came to this country of one by the name of John Thomas him being the first Settler thereon, John griffith was the first settler on David Rood's place now adjoining french creek which John Melbin about the year 1736 bought of Said J griffith and sold 2 tracts one to Conrad Selner 94 acres which my father in law Nicholas Haldeman bought the lease of in the Revolutionary war then a Tenant under J Moor Esqr. at moorhall place then seven hundred acres likely i shall say more of Esqr. Moor when come to make mention of how the Vincent lands were Deadet. The other tract Melbin sold to Henry Knerr Now William yeager John Melbin died and his son in law Edward Bell became the owner and Sold to Jacob

Andrew in the year 1794 and J. Andrew Sold to Sebastian Root the Father of David Root the present owner by will adjoining french creek next place adjoining along Said creek old Henry Knerr bought of Thomas Balman who been the first settler lived and died an old age and willed to his thirth Son Abraham and he died a pirty aged man and the place Sold a year hence and was purchased by Jona John and occupice the same Henry Knerr came to this country from germany Sometime when young served his Time with Conrad Selner that N. Haldeman purchased of and larned the weaving trade of which he paid much attention to in his time NB. Roraback Knerr bought of Roraback got the same of T. Badman—here french creek makes the greates bend in its corse runs around tow of its Sides the next place along french creek South of Bransons Road the first Settler John Batman brother of the former of whom John Willson bought from Ireland came to Settle here when his Son Thomas was 4 years old which is 83 years now its 20 years past he died and his age was 87 and his Sons Thomas and John are the owners by will of the Same all members of the valley church and buiry thier Aprill 17th 1845 was the Cenetary of its hundreth year its called St. Peter's Church in the great Vally in the Township of Trediffrin a walsh term which sicnifice Town in the Vally or Vally Town Millers place old Philip bought of John Davis the first Settler he had Sold once and moved back but Some time after returned and repurchased it again and after his decease 4 Sons then at home diveted into 5 Shares of which the widdow hel the one fifth and erected new buildings were She lived to be an aged womman with 2 dauthers and one Son with her and after her decease all the sons but the youngest the 2 Sisters hold all the land but one Share but Since the decease of their mother they became verry Superstious with Teaching among themselfs never to die Some years hence John who lived with the 2 Sisters died and when Joseph the youngest Son whent to git a neighbor to assist in laying out the corps Joseph burst out Saying that John would not

have died but he had fell asleep and the devil had by that Means cauth him Not long Since Joseph had expresed himself to an neighbor of his that he would be dammed if he ever would die This family been accused for Setting Pikeland Church on fire and was burned down and had their trial but escaped of conviction Strange to relate their parents Strickt church people and the girls not missing to attent once either lutheran or prespeteren service and after their parents decease turned to this State of Situation their parents been So attached to the church that before the Revolution before the St. Zions Church of which they been members was build but in procress of being build their oldest daughter died with the Small box was buried near the church and 3 years after when the church was built and the intended graveyard Surounted by wall The took her up and rebuirried her insid of the wall; more thereof when i come to treat about churches & & next Robert Watkins place whereon the Indian graves of which is made mention above The present John Thomas his great grandfather John Thomas was the first Settler thereon and now Frederick Rohdewaldt's place and the father of the late Robert Watkin owned the place adjoining the last mentioned place which came to be the property of the late Judge Ralston Son of Robert when got maried and lived thereon till 20 years Since was the Sole heir to his fathers estate and when died had provited for all his 4 older sons Robert, William & James and John the youngest george living with him at his decease became the owner of the place of which Robert Watkin the brother of all was the first Settler Next place to formerly Owens now Stauffers and Haldeman a Son in law of the former Then are 2 places Orners and Keeley's now that i was not able to find out the first settlers of, them along the time of Pikeland leving the Springs to the right Dr. Isaac Davis's place now, formerly on 40 years hence John Cloyds but first settled by Jacob Hinters at the uper corner along the Spring Road Stands the Babtists meeting house formally a log building but now a Stone edifice 70

years Since Mr. Thomas some say Joshua Waker was the officiate and for many years since The Rev. Charles More This place forms the corner of upper & lower or East and west Vincent according to the old devition but now all west vincent from there the line run throug my hill place formerly John youngs John David the first Settler And through my dam about 20 perches above the brest of my dam to the river Schulkill The next place above joining the before mentioned one Robert Ralstons now was first Settled by the father of Major John Evans the former proprietor the first Settler of Joseph Kolb's place, deceased formerly John Evans the former, his father bought of one John Lewis he being the first Settler how long hence for both the Evanses got to live and got to be old men thereon Morris Evans the first Settler adjoining this place now Isaac & Nathan Hawkes place and had their meeting house and grave yard on the ground that became Judge John Ralstons place the members dispersed and Ralston moved it across the road and made a Tenent hous of and is occupied as such to this day but the graves are left undisturbed by the occupants; next Reas Barbors place now but first Settled by Caspar Himes next place Daniel Wedner now old Nicholas grund an old revolutioner N. grund bought of one John Martin first owner him being the first Settler thereon James Wilsons place now was first Settled by J. Hencock he Sold to Hugh Strickland all members of the Valley church and rest their Hencock from england and Strickland from ireland who was the grandfather of Nimrod Strickland Esqr. at West Chester now, H. Strickland died 45 Since now the place of John Shuler at the mouth of Birch run, birdch run derived its name as the chief of the Timber growing along the Same was birdch this place was first taken up and Settled by garrit Brumback of whom i shall treat more largely in its turn Frederick Bingaman The father of the late old Frederick Bingaman a mill right by trade erected the first saw mill that was erected in this neighborhood and in his time addet a grist mill to but at

this time nothing to be Seen as part of the hole were the building Stood but head and tale ranes more visible this is at the mouth of birdch run in the year 1794 I been Several times in their was one pair of runners in to Jap on the dwelling was all under one Roof Adam Miller the father of his oldest son John then the owner who got the Same by will of his father John Miller was or had been a brother in law of mine run cheafly through with the property Sold the Same to Judge John Ralston a brother in law of his Ralston erected all new buildings and put his second son on and after the decease of the Judge William capt it at the appraismnt This place and the place the writer lives on join down french creek and from french Creek up the hill Sout 31 West 125 along my what we call the hill place of which I Shall treat more distinct in its turn Birdch run runs about the above corse till where the two branches meet This Valley of birdch run is termed here and called the hallow incline all the lands each Side of the run to the head on the left up the Stream the assenting is chiefly Timber land at this time and on the right cheafly clear and cultivated and considerable buildings there are in the corse of not more than 2 miles 4 cristmills 4 Saw mills one oil mill and one tilt and the best Seat that of John Sheelers vacant a great part of this Timber land belonged to grunds and Caspar Himes places and between grund and Michal Kolb a difficult law suit had taken place about the year 1805 concerning the water that is were the oil and Sawmill is now the property of Auengrater and in the direction of where the branches meet birdch run Schoolhouse where the Township of West Vincent elections are held Since the last devition and of nearly all the lands to the right of Said run to the head of the Jinkings family been the first Settlers and owners of and its hard to relate that none of that large family once hold a foot of land at this time as where their corpses lay it all whent down their troughts in liquor. The property of the present John Thomas & others the first Settler thereof was Casper Himes ajoining the before men-

tioned James Wilson Morris Evans the first Settler on the place now Isaac Nathan Hawks now own of which i have made mention above one John Lewis the first Settler of the late Joseph Kolbs place the father of the late John Evans deceased's father bought of J. Lewis, Robert Ralstons place now i could not git to trace any further back as John Evans Major his father this John was called Major as he had held that office in the militia for many years And the other John Evans been joining place was called J. E. the former old Henry Benner the brother of Paul Benner of the upermost corner of Vincent Henry Stitlers now a Son in law of the youngest son Henry Benner his name been Henry; general Benner the Iron master about Silisgrove Been an Son of this H. Benner. Jacob Volgress the first Settler on the place now called John Woodwards Information of James Thomas 90 years old now was brought on the place where on he now resides by his parents 84 years ago from Wales when 2 years old and lives in the first house that was put up Says that he served out 3 Companes in the Revolution and that in the battle of whitemash general Erving was wounted; when i called on him James Thomas Evan Evans of East Nantmil he tould me had been with him and had taken down the perticulars that he knew of, but gave me the following perticulars of the Surounding neighborhood of who the first Settlers had been David Thomas the first Settler on old Jacob Heffilfengers place were him and his Son Lewis deceased now Pannebeekers place David Jinkins the first owner of the place where John Hiffilfenger died, the Second Son of Jacob and John his Son the owner on this place the grave yard is, and Hiffilfenger Surrounted with a Stone wall the said David Thomas been the owner of a large tract and that of Isaac Miller and John Pauls now John Mcfarling was the first owner of all that is now Wm. Brumbach's and John Swinehard's places David Jinkins was the owner of large tracts of land and being Superviser of the poor he had to burry the last remaining Indian when died on my hill place of which

i Shall say more in its turn there had been but two german families Settled in west Vincent when the informant was brought here Phaelix Christman and Christian Everhart Phaelix devited his place to his two Sons John and george the had no male issue but 7 female and the widdow lives on this place and Daniel a son of John the owner of his fathers place and one . . . . Wagonman the first Settler on the lands of Everharts, he . . . . Wagonman the first Settler died without male issue and Christian Everhard married the widdow who was the grand father of Wm. Everhart Esqr. at West Chester Christian left the places to 2 sons James and Benjamin James deceased and Benjamin alife at present, now the place of Wm. Huston was owned many years by an german by the name of Jacob Ellis but left no male issue on this place Thomas Watkins was the first Settler on this place David Jinkins brought the above indian and buried him and this is the place that the divition line of the old divition before mentioned runs through my dam to Schulkill on this place was the village of a number of indians about fourty perchis from french creek in a hollow formed of high banks on three sides and the fronts towards the Creek level with but little Slope Secured for against S. E. S. W. and N. E. winds and A. Millers place adjoining this Mother Miller a Midwife use to be called to deliver and when com home She use to tell her family how the father of the chield use to go and bring a handfull of roots and rubbed the infant with and when these indians left the oldest of them not liking to go and wile lived here whent to the neighboring houses to git Something to eat and when he was asked why he had not gone whit his people he replyd that he wished to live as long as he could and that he had known that he could not reach the destiny and that they would to had killed him on the road This is the indian above mentioned that D. Jinkins had to buirry Some years after John David had Settled himself on this place and had erected Some kind of buildings and had cleared some ground to farm he obtained a lease of the proprietaries Thomas and Richard

Penn their attornies Richard Peters and Linford Lardner their agents for that purpose the 19th day of February 1746 for thee years; David was a miller by trade and erected a grist mill at bridge run where now the tilt is 53 years ago was a powdermill on that place i was then in and bought a pound of powder one Erdman was then carrying on the buisness in 1758 John David conveyed around the dam of now mine a certain tract of land and in the year 1776 conveyed the remainder of his place to John young, the father of the old John young now near govantry forge george Christman's now which was 44 years before John young got a tille of the west Jersy Society now i am Sitting writing in my mansion on the East Side french creek having the above discribed place in sight; This my place was first Settled by one Samuel Bowen But will leve this Subject and return to east Vincent again. The Vincent lands before Seated, where Called Callowhill mannor. In the year 1827 I Frederick Sheeder bought this hill place as we called, of John young and erected New house and barn and improved the Same otherwise on this place are good iron oar but not in operation and has all appearance of limestone the french creek devids these two places the hill place in west and this the Papermill place in East Vincent of which i shall give a more perticular discription in detail in its turn I have to turn towards the uper end of West Vincent as i excipt making mention of Some places the place at present occupied by Joseph Davis at the conestoco pike between Christman's places and formerly Ludwigs Tavarn, the first Settler of that was one Mr. —— John the grandfather of Jona John now on old Knerrs place there are Some miner tracts that i have no information of, now i will proseed to Kimberton farm was first Settled by one Parker of whom g. Christman deceased bought altho in Pikeland the line of vincent and Pikeland runs through that farm its likely in my corse i Shall give you the name of the person of whom you can obtain a Scheme Sketch of Kimberton this my Residence and Reinhards factorys; down Royal Spring

Stream emties in french creek at Clement Rentgen's deceased till were he use to factor the round iron opposed that is the large farm now Alexander Caneday, East Vincent Umphry Lloyd was the first Settler on this place where french creek runs along the line of 2 sides to the left whereas the creek runs to the right 2 sides of Johna Johns place above discribed umphry Lloyd came from wales and old age had but one Son John who kept the place till died of old age John lived till much advances in years then took a wife got 2 Sons who been miners at the decease of their father and when came on age to take charge of the property not been brought up to work Soon run through with, this is one of the handsomest farms in the Township, now I proseed up the creek to the Lyles place Joseph Rogers the grandfather of Wm. Rogers Esqr. the late high Sheriff of Chester County and Justice of the peace, and of James Rogers at Springville came from ireland and Settled this place first and indians had wigwombs in and around the bank where he erected his buildings addet more caves in Said bank for his Negro Slaves to live in and in the meantime he had a Sone growing up and use to rassel with the indians of which play they been very fond—further ahead you will find it Stated that its 126 years Since this took place Jonathan Rogers one of the Sons of Joseph hel the largest part of the large tract and died on the Same in the year 1792 Jonathan Sold to the Pottses and Hopert 50 acres the lower part of the place along the creek to erect a Slitting mill and a forge to make germen Steel, of this i Shall treat more largely hereafter and of the time when I with my parents and others came to this country next comes Henry Yeager's place now joining french creek the Father in law of old Henry Knerr by the name of Henry Miller was the first Settler on this place by whos death H. Knerr became the heir of and he left it by his will to his oldest Son but one Henry Knerr that kept the middle ferry had been the oldest son Jacob Knerr after his decease H. yeager became the owner of next place joining french creek the creek divides

this and Johna John's are a Crist mill and Sawmill 2 dwelling houses and School hous called Christman's Schoolhouse and mills the present owner was willed to by his father Henry Christman the oldest Son of old Henry Christman deceased the farm house and 2 Stone houses and large Barn with other buildings Stand on a rising about 50 perchis from the works the mill and out buildings the present proprietor erected, This place was first Settled by the before mentioned Paul Benner who was a Son in law of garrit Brumback of whome I have to give a detailed describing of in its turn of whome old John Hause purchased which is hard on 30 years and erected permenant buildings in his time and died old age next place up french creek the present proprietor george Christman youngest Son of Henry and brother of the former the old gentleman along with his brother george that afterwards became the owner of Kimberton place, purchased this property when young men of the first Settler Thomas Brawall brother of Wm. that Paul Benner had bought of after Henry C. and g. lived on this place george here is a lately erected roofed bridge accross french creek, Sold his Share to his brother Henry and purchased the Kimberton farm then on to 300 acres Henry Turned everything to advantage and prospered left places by will to all his children but one, and She got hers in cash, on this place is an indian grave close to the fence that has head and foot stone which i have viewed, next to this along the creek is Andrew Bussert now, which old Adam Miller willed to his Second Son Conrad but could not keep it like his brother John was sold for him about the year 1817 on account being incumbered, next to that is the place I, F. Sheeder reside on, this place was first Settled by Samuel Bowen who erected a crist mill and Sawmill then none in the parts around for 20 miles and after the decease of Said S. Bowen george and Miric David two brothers bought the property then containing 200 acres and better it appears that Bowen Sold a lot off at the upper end which is now the property of the widdow Shuler who had been the wife of

the late Wm. Shuler, the Said g. and Miric David put every thing in repair and in complead order and the mill not being Spacious for the acquirement of the business, they erected a new mill the one here then was of hewn logs but they erected a large Stone mill house of three Story high over and around the one that was and wile this was in progress the Millrights had to have all their work rady to clap in as soon as the roof been on the new millhouse and as Soon the roof was on the old house and geering was tore out and the new put in In three days time for the mill to run again on account of the throng of the buisness and Some years after Miric Sold his Share to his brother george and he took up the place next above this something like 300 acres and erected a forge. Some number of years after he became indebted and this property was Sold by the Sheriff i must return back to this place of mine before proseeding on of Miric David, John David on the hill place of which a discribtion is above given was a thirth brother they been all millers by trade they been brought up to that by thier father thier father owned the property that is at this time called Millers factory in Covantry, tho John had been Small of person and lame he got to larn the Tailoring trade and whent by the name wile living on the hill place hopping Tailor or little John, george Secured all the water right to his works and 12 years after John had been the possesor of the hill place he conveyed a Small triangle to george at the upper end at the dam wich is now 88 years past, the writing for that purpose been Signed the Ninth day of August 1758. After the decease of george David old Jacob Keeley the father of the last deceased Jacob deceased purchased the property and repaired. The information of the erecting of the before mentioned mill house & & i obtained of old James John ten years ago Shortly before his decease i been with him twice Seeing him and in our conversation he tould me that this had been the place that he had been Sent to mill when a boy and that then the mill was new built and the circumstances as related

above and he counted up the years from then and Said that it was 82 years than I been asking Joshua Hause once when he had that mill torn away to erect the present paper-mill as i got my Sawing done here i been building the barn on the hill then, If he could discover anything about the old mill how long it had been build and he Said that there had been a date at one of the gable ends and that according to that date it had been build 81 years for me asking him that question was that in the winder of 1793 and 1794 I the first time came past here to go to Brumbachs church It appeared to me then to be an old building and the walls cracked much however to return to Jacob Keeley Repairing everything of a new he addit new buildings a pullingmill and gun factory and a large new stone house and kept then a public house in he got an daughter married to a Batman he then put an addition to for Batman to keep store every thing was prosporing with him he erected a bridge accross french creek here on his own expence. The forage Magazine was here the time the Army lay at Valley forge and its Said that there is a cannon buirried here that g. Washington had ordered to be Spiked and buirried when he left the parts; J. K. had a Team going continually hauling for the army. Jacob Keeley died the day of the battle of germantown 69 years ago his widdow Elizabeth She lived here 30 od years after his decease her Son Jacob Keeley took possession as heirs and he did not injoy the property long in 2 or 3 years him and wife died not fare appart Some of the heirs took it at the appraisement but Sold the same to Wm. Sahler in 1816 Sahler possessed it a copple of years and was Sold out by the Shirriff the heirs bought it but could not hold it assigners were choosen they divited it in two tracts 84 acres to the Mill and 71 Acres to the Tavern the Township election has allway been here within 6 years and the general Election, is no Tavern nor election held here at present I have a building in progress for Lycium and School and when finished will be dwelling for 2 more familys here as are now 6 family's here 34 persons

an engreas in the Spring of 12 persons more; The assigners had not been able to sell then the Shirriff Sold the mill tract in 1819 and Daniel Hause purchased it and put his Son Joshua here and in 1825 Conveyed it to Joshua and he conveyed it to Frederick Sheeder the present proprietor in 1832 and Since then have been continually at building and repairing in the year 1821 the dam whent away and was kept up but temporally till in 1838 built a permenant one the house i live in i erected in in 1840 i erected a new Barn that has 20 thousand Shingles on its roof a year or two after I had put in a permanant dam the property next above come into new hands made clame for damages to pay for the property that they had bought too high the damages been laid at 2500 dollars and the gentleman was awarted i cent damage and $100.00 for the time to com and after that was paid It was discovered that the dam was not within a foot as high as the former dams had been, Here i must relate an anecdote in the year of 1833 when this my mansion was under roof living then in the old house a gentleman from Connecticut called on me to Subscribe for a book Whitefields life and Sermons i did so and he loged over knight with me and in the conversation we had after Supper he Said that if any person had tould him that the State of Pennsylvania was Such a country as he had found it to be he would not had belived it I put the question wy, his answer was, we call your Corn Stocks Sabling and your houses pallases; I must proseed to the next place Conrad Bode 15 years hence came from germany bought the Seventy one acres of the assigners and Sold 14 acres with the part of the buildings the new part of the house and part of the Stabling he moved accross the new road and erected a house and barn where he at present resides; of the next place above this i made mention who the first Settler was last fall it has been Sold by assinement in two tracts and 2 fields not Sold is nothing in opporation but i belive the oil mill there is a limestone quarry on this place the next above that is David Marys but cheafly of the forge place

the next above that is the Borthalets place 3 farms with Christ and Sawmill on the Smallest tract Samuel Borthalet purchased it Second hanted after the decease of ——— Root and its Suposed that W. Root was the first Settler on the same The next place John Buchard formerly John Titlow and its Suposed that, That family been the first Settlers, Next is Pughtown James Pugh took up then this along with Tounsend's place all in one is a large tract of land a good part has been Sold out in town lots and houses are going on brisk 2 Stores a Tanary a Temprance hotel a Schoolhouse a permenent Stone bridge accross the creek mill and Sawmill; am in Covantry now but will soon return to Vincent again as i understood of Dr. St. Meredith that he could not attend to comply to his letter he had received of the Society, Samuel Nutt erected the first ironworks at Covantry ville. The next place above Pughtown Jesse Meredith Says that his great grandfather took up that place 300 acres in 1712 and did pay £ 45:00:00 now i turn back to Vincent again to the place this Side of Pughtown, Frederick Lehr's place a germen of late years but Jacob Mundshauer a Swiss, I shall Say more of this Jacob when i com to treat of Reinhards place, the first Settler was held by the family till whithin 12 years hence Jacob M. was a Stone mason by trade and one of his Sons, John had learned the blacksmith trade he whent to Lancaster to work Jurney work and he worket there the time the Baxten boys first came to Lancaster to distroy the town, they baxten boys took his Sledge out of the Shop for him he John returned home again and worket for himself. He was the first Smith that put hups on wagon wheels in these parts of the country this information i dirived of a grand son of his, he is now called old Jacob Mundshauer; if trancelated in english a person that looks into an others mouth the next place to the right hand of the Pughtown road was first Settled and builtings erected one Alhannah John after him old Philip Miller became the owner and after his decease it had a copple of owners and the widdow and heirs of the late Christian Funk are the

owners and reside thereon this is now reversing the corse first i whent up the creek now i come back or down but on the right of Bransons road on Kimberton and Pughtown road and between that and the Ridge road in East vincent, next place is John green's formarly Abraham Beidler but for many years george Hubner and it is supposed that, That family been the first Settlers next are 64 acres that F. Sheeder owns now no buildings on, formerly belonging to that place next the Widdow Maureys former owner george Sneider which if translated is Tailor, next place is Jacob Cristman's the Second Son of Henry deceased which place was first Settled by one Philip Thomas this place joins mine and the lands of garrit Brumback's in whos behalf i have to treat largely in its turn. P. Thomas and g. Brumback been two of the first Settlers in that part of the Township Thomas a Seven day baptist and Brumback a calvinist Masle Thomas a Son of his was owner for many years after the decease of his father and after the decease of Masle none of his Sons could hold it and on this place stood a large peach tree that brought sound fruit 80 years George Christman and others have heard Penina Mccrakin a Sister of Masle's often relate it to them this Penina Mc. Crakin had part of her fathers place here her father erected house and barn for her and both are occupied the boards on the floor are pinned down 2 story high, and Since her decease as She had no heir as her brother's children it came into other hands and devited into three parts William Wilson holds the part where the buildings are on now i have to go down and begin at the Pikeland line and come up to the right of the Ridge road at Henry Bush his place formarly and for many years the ormy's place and its Supposed that John the grandfather of the present ormeys had been the first Settler perhaps 100 years ago he was born 1718 and died 1790 next Henry Hippel's deceased place in the hands of his children Thomas Snider was the first Settler of this place Henry Hippel Married his dauther and became the owner Thomas was born 1716 and died 1782 aged 66 years

on this is the first house standing with additions addet to build of log and the first part built is good at this time and is the main room i was in it to view it for this purpose. Henry Hippel was born 1759 died 1843 age 84 years, on the most east westerly corner of this place in the corner below the Ridge road a long the line of formarly Henry Millers place Stands the monument of Revolutionaries of which i Shall give a full describtion of in its turn when i com to treat of g. Washintons incampment at the Springs and his first night in quartering which was here, the hill church Stands on the top level in the corner of this place on this ridge on his way to Reading; the next is Wm. Rogers Esqr. and late Sherriff of Chester County; which is part of old Joseph Bassler's place the Ridge road passing through by the tenements old Bassler its belived was the first Settler on this place joings Wm. grandfather's place, and now begin the different places till part Brumback Church on the left of the Ridge road when i come to treat of the churches I Shall then give the particulars in detail now crossing the road a distance above the church then the revers course first Isaac younblod's place then the Poseys place Edward Brumback's place The great, grandfather of Said Edward was the first Settler here garrit Brumback came from germany when but one house Stood where germantown now Stands he tarried a wile about there and came up here took up 1000 acres and erected buildings and the first house was of log all split with the wip saw and about four years past Edward tore it away and erected a Stone house in the place and now lives in, garrit as soon he had erected builting he capt Tavern in and there was then an Indian village about 50 or 60 perchis where the roads now crosses, Pottsgrove and Schullkill roads (and a new meeting house now Stands) of 300 Souls and garrit got them under his commant they helpet him to work and got provition in return, gearhard to had to Set down with them and Smoke a pipe of tobaco and rassel with them this pleased them much and they then Sang war Songs for him

his time he had to go to the Valley forge 10 mile to git his plough irons Sharpened and carried one on each Side of his horse, this was the first public house kept in these parts that he kept. The indians had been verry fond of potatoes Turnips and especially milk i could mention the lines of this tract, but takes too much time.

(To be continued.)